THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
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FOR RELEASE Immediately

CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN PRINTS

Opening October 2 at The Cleveland Museum of Art is a choice group of CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN PRINTS, an exhibition sponsored and circulated in the United States by the Boston Public Library. This collection, representing the work of fifty-nine promising young artists as well as established masters, is sufficient in scope to effectively convey what the best Italian artists are producing in this medium today. This is the first exhibition of present-day Italian prints to cross the Atlantic for presentation in America. In exchange, a similar collection of American prints is being shown in Italy's major cities.

For the most part the prints are the work of painters and display the same treatment as painting. The marked preference shown for rapid techniques lends immediacy and freshness to these works - qualities which seem most appreciated in art today. For this reason, dry point, etching and lithography, which give the hand more liberty and choice of movement, are more numerous than engraving on metal or wood - media which, though insuring more complete results, tend to restrain the fervor of the artist's emotions. Experiment in color, so popular among today's American artists, is comparatively rare.

The work in this group is still more or less anchored to reality - a reality adapted to the artist's needs, strongly individualistic, but not often abstract. While some prints display poetic and spiritual qualities, others are strongly realistic and social in subject. As a whole, the prints are personal in approach-reflecting the artist's sensitive appreciation of nature and consciousness of her offering.

The exhibition will be on view through October 28.